



# Arizona Department of Public Safety Crime Victim Services Newsletter

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**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

## Crime Victim Services

[www.azvictims.org](http://www.azvictims.org)

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*The mission of the Arizona Department of Public Safety's Crime Victim Services Unit is to effectively administer VOCA Assistance funds by ensuring appropriate and accessible services are available to crime victims, enhancing the delivery of those services through technical assistance, training opportunities, and promoting a continuum of care for every victim in every community.*

## New Life Center Expansion



New Life Center's proposed project is an expansion of its existing domestic violence emergency shelter located in Goodyear, Arizona, an underserved area of the west valley in metropolitan Phoenix.

The Building Hope, Saving Lives construction project relates to New Life Center's mission by addressing the critical need for additional beds for families fleeing domestic violence and by addressing the cycle of domestic violence by providing an appropriate facility in which to deliver targeted interventions to child survivors.

New Life Center will add 40 beds to an existing 64-bed facility. New construction will add two casitas with four individual rooms contained in each casita. Rooms are designed to be identical to the existing casitas and will accommodate four beds and one crib or toddler bed in each room. Each room will have a private bathroom. Because of this facility design, New Life Center is one of the few shelters able to accept teenage boys up to 17 years old.

The project will add a Child Development Center to the New Life Center campus. This building will offer discreet areas for children of dif-

fering ages: a soundproof nursery in which infants may nap, a toddler play area, a library/computer center for teens and adults, a group advocacy room for the Child Advocates to conduct group sessions/art and music therapy, private offices for the Child Advocates and a large storage unit to store the voluminous amount of residential items needed for resident population.

New Life anticipates opening the new beds in the summer of 2007. It is estimated that over 500 residents will be served in the expansion by next year bringing New Life Center's total number of residents served to 1,400.

## VATOnline

Victim Assistance Training Online (VATOnline) is a web-based training program funded by the Office for Victims of Crime. It is being developed by Cikatelli Associates, Inc., in partnership with the National Center for Victims of Crime, and Safe Horizon, Inc. The training is a basic, fundamental program that combines core information and basic skills needed by victim service providers to meet the needs of identified victim populations.

The goal of VATOnline is to teach new victim service providers from all types of victim service agencies the basic knowledge and skills they need to respond effectively to crime

victims. A secondary goal is to provide training at a time and place convenient to the learner, which is allowed for by the Web-based format.

It is anticipated that the training program will be available in spring 2007. This training is for new victim service providers with less than three years of experience who work with victims of crime. The 35-40 hour training is divided into various modules or sections ranging from 30-60 minutes to complete. Users can complete the entire training program or specific sections of the program. Every two years the training program will be updated and users can refresh sessions as needed.

This online program is free of charge. There is no tuition, travel or other associated costs. For more information regarding this online program contact:

Keran Deli

[Keran@cicatelli.org](mailto:Keran@cicatelli.org) or the OVC TTAC Training

Calendar page:

[www.ovcttac.org](http://www.ovcttac.org).



**National  
Victim  
Assistance  
Academy**

The National Victim Assistance Academy (NVAA)

was established in 1995 by Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) to offer an academic-based curriculum that emphasized foundation-level education in victimology and victims' rights and services.

This training being offered is a classroom experience for those professionals and volunteers who assist victims and survivors of crime. The NVAA is now in the process of being restructured to include three instructional tracks which will be offered to victim service providers during a week-long Academy.

**Track 1** A general, foundation-level training for those who have less than 3 years of experience. The goal is to provide entry-level professionals and volunteers with skills, knowledge, and resources to serve victims and survivors of crime more effectively. The length of training is three days.

**Track 2** Consists of several specialized training courses, such as elder abuse or ethics. Courses offered are on the most current topics in the victim services field that have direct impact on victims. This is for those who have been in the victim services field at least 2 years. These courses range from 1 to 2.5 days in length.

**Track 3** Courses on management issues, leadership, or strategic planning are intended to help victim service administrators and leaders develop and refine the skills and abilities they need to manage and sustain their victim service programs. These courses range from 1 to 2.5

days in length.

These NVAA courses will be updated every two years and will be held in different parts of the country to achieve geographic balance and ease of access for participants. For more information regarding NVAA contact:

Judith Walton  
OVC TTAC  
[jwalton@icfi.com](mailto:jwalton@icfi.com) or the  
OVC TTAC Training  
Calendar page:  
[www.ovcttac.org](http://www.ovcttac.org).



### Fiscal Year 07/08 VOCA Award Process

The FY 2007/2008 DPS VOCA Assistance application process announcement will soon post to [www.azvictims.org](http://www.azvictims.org).

This year, approximately \$8.4 million is available in this competitive process for all VOCA eligible projects, and it is anticipated that 105 projects will be funded. Eligible applicants are non-profit and governmental agencies providing direct services to crime victims. Agencies with currently funded projects must reapply to compete for funding. Applications must be requested, completed and submitted on-line via the Web-based Automated Grants System (WAGS).

A pre-application conference will be scheduled for late February 2007. Pre-application attendees must register on-line via WAGS once the application announcement posts.



### Upcoming Training Opportunities

**January 17-19, 2007** —18th Statewide Child Abuse Prevention Conference Help, Hope, Healing at the Mesa Centennial Center. The Arizona Child and Family Advocacy Center Network, AZ-POST, Arizona Parents' Commission, US Airways and the Governor's Office for Children, Youth & Families Division for Substance Abuse Policy, is offering scholarships for registration fees only. Deadline for submitting scholarship application is January 5, 2006. Advocates, educators, healthcare, law enforcement, victim service, therapists etc. are encouraged to attend.

A pre-conference training is scheduled January 17th on Battling Methamphetamine. Learn what is it; how it's manufactured; the inherent dangers, signs and symptoms of use; as well as the investigation of labs in Arizona. Learn about the role of law enforcement and Child Protective Services. Gain knowledge of overall dangers and risks children are exposed to when in contact with clandestine meth labs and other dangerous drugs.

On January 18th, attendees will have a variety of workshop sessions to attend throughout the day. Keynote speakers include:

**Randell Alexander, MD, PhD** Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Florida, Chief of the Division of Child Protection and Forensic Pediatrics and Statewide Medical Director for the Florida Child Protection Teams. He served on state child death

review committees in the states of Iowa, Georgia and Florida. He has extensive interest in all forms of child abuse, particularly shaken baby syndrome, Munchausen syndrome by proxy, prevention, and child death review.

**Stella Reid**, is the co-star of the overnight hit Fox TV reality show *Nanny 911*. A real-life English nanny, she received her accreditation in nanny/childcare in Burnley, North England. She co-authored *Nanny 911: Expert Advice for All Your Parenting Emergencies*, a perfect source book for dealing with everyday problems which have escalated to out of control levels.

A networking reception sponsored by Casa de los Ninos is scheduled for the evening of January 18th.

On the 19th, A Plenary Session: A Vocabulary for Working Together by **Karen Ray, MA**, President of Karen Ray Associates, a consulting firm specializing in training and organization development for government, community and non-profit agencies. Karen's most recent book, The Nimble Collaboration, is an award winning collection of wisdom and best practices based on years of consultation with collaborations in many sectors in many states. She also co-authored the award winning handbook Collaboration, Creating, Sustaining and Enjoying the Journey guides non-profit staff through partnership ventures. For more information regarding this years conference visit: [www.pcaaz.org](http://www.pcaaz.org).



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